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Man Charged With Capital Murder of Pomona Police Officer

A man was charged today with murdering a 30-year-old Pomona police officer and trying to kill other officers during a standoff last week, the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office announced.

Isaias De Jesus Valencia (dob 4/26/79) was charged in case KA117390 with one count of murder with the special circumstance allegations of murder of a peace officer and murder for the purpose of avoiding or preventing a lawful arrest.

Valencia also faces seven counts of attempted murder and one count each of fleeing a pursuing peace officer's vehicle and possession of a firearm by a felon. He is expected to be arraigned today in Department F of the Los Angeles County Superior Court, Pomona Branch.

Deputy District Attorneys Robert Serna and Antonella Nistorescu of the Crimes Against Peace Officers Section are prosecuting the case.

On March 9, Valencia is accused of fleeing from police during a brief pursuit and then barricading himself inside an apartment complex in the 1400 block of South Palomares Street in Pomona.

A group of officers tried to extricate Valencia who opened fire and allegedly killed Pomona Police Officer Greggory Casillas. Another officer was allegedly shot and wounded by Valencia. There were several other officers but they were not struck by the gunfire, the prosecutor said.

Valencia was arrested after a 16-hour standoff with police.

If convicted as charged, the defendant faces the death penalty or life in prison without the possibility of parole. A decision on whether to seek capital punishment will be made at a later date.

The case remains under investigation by the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Department and the Pomona Police Department.

About the Los Angeles County District Attorney's Office

Los Angeles County District Attorney Jackie Lacey leads the largest local prosecutorial office in the nation. Her staff of nearly 1,000 attorneys, 300 investigators and 800 support staff members is dedicated to protecting our community through the fair and ethical pursuit of justice and the safeguarding of crime victims' rights.